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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: **ENDO, Hiroshi**

Group Art Unit: 2814

Serial No.: 10/092,308

Examiner: T. LE

Filed: March 7, 2002

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 8396

For: **SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING AN OVERHANGING STRUCTURE AND METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE SAME**

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
- EXPEDITED RESPONSE -
GROUP ART UNIT 2814

BOX AF

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 26, 2003

Sir:

Please
DO NOT ENTER.
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In response to the Office Action dated November 26, 2002, extended to March 26, 2003 by a one month Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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IN THE CLAIMS:

AMEND claim 1 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for fabricating a semiconductor device, comprising the steps of:
forming an overhanging structure having an umbrella-shaped portion on a semiconductor layer;
forming a protective film to cover a surface of said structure;
processing said protective film by removal so that an edge thereof on said semiconductor layer is positioned inside an edge of said umbrella-shaped portion;